



## ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A roller skate includes an upper [[1112]], including a substantially non-rigid upper portion [[1120]] secured to a base [[1118]]. A frame [[1114]] secured to the base carries a plurality of wheels [[1116]]. The substantially non-rigid upper portion is reinforced by a substantially rigid internal heel counter [[1134]]. An ankle support cuff assembly [[1110]] is pivotally secured to the internal heel counter [[1134]]. The ankle support cuff assembly includes a substantially rigid ankle support cuff [[1142]] that is pivotally secured on lateral and medial sides to the internal heel counter. Ankle pad [[1144]] lines the interior of the ankle support cuff [[1142]]. Ankle support cuff [[1142]] is fastened by a selectively securable fastener [[1148]] about the skater's ankle. The ankle support cuff assembly pivots freely in the forward and aft direction relative to the internal heel counter [[1134]].

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